

**REMARKS**

Claims 1, 10 and 14 are amended to recite the features of allowable claims 8 or 12 (that the device is frustoconically tapered), Claims 8 and 12 are cancelled, and Claim 13 is amended to depend upon claim 10. Claims 1-7, 9, and 11-17 are before the examiner.

Claims 15-17 are allowed; and claims 8, 12 and 13 were indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the base and intervening claim limitations. By this amendment, claims 1 and 10 are amended to correspond to the independent form of claims 8 and 12, and claim 13 is amended for consistency. Claims 2-7 and 9 depend from allowable claim 1, and claims 11 and 13-14 from allowable claim 10. All pending claims are thus allowable.

The rejection of Claims 1-7, 9-11 and 14 as anticipated, although not conceded, is believed to be moot in view of the amendment. The amendment conforms to the requirements of the Final Office Action and should be entered after final rejection because it places the application in condition for allowance and raises no new issues for examination.

Further examination of the application, as amended, and reconsideration of the rejections and objections are respectfully requested. In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in

condition for allowance. If any issues remain that are appropriate for resolution, please contact undersigned counsel.

Respectfully submitted,

/Daniel N. Lundeen /  
Daniel N. Lundeen  
Reg. No. 31,177  
Lundeen & Dickinson, L.L.P.  
PO Box 131144  
Houston, Texas 77219-1144  
(713) 652-2555  
(713) 652-2556 Fax  
ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT

DNL/ml